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32.  
K  
London Tryacle,

Being the enemy to all infectious  
diseases; as may appear by the dis-  
course following.



R. Bond

London  
Printed by EDW: ALLDE.  
1612.

London Tryal

Being the  
dissection of the



London  
Printed by E. & W. Alder.  
1812.



*To the gentle Reader, R. B. wisheth*

*all health and welfare according to*

*his owne harts desire.*



It was my good hap gentle Reader, not many dayes agoe, to hit vpon this discourse of London Triacle: which after I had shewed vnto diuers of iudgement and skill in such matters & found that they iudged the booke well worthy the setting out, especially in this infectious season. I resolued thereup on to publish it to the world, that therby the fruite and benefite thereof might the better be imparted to our whole nation. It should seeme the discourse was fully ended before the plague in London began this last Summer, for otherwise it is not to be thought but the authour would somewhere haue made mention thereof. Notwithstanding, I my selfe hauing made diligent enquiry as wel of Phisitions as of Surgeons & Apothecaries what tryall hath bene made therof in the time of pestilence, I am by many of good iudgement assuredly certified that amongst the poore especially (whome it most haunted) this Triacle by good triall and experience hath beene found to be of singular vertue, and to haue saued the liues of hundreds which haue taken it: for very few which in the first or second day of the disease took any reasonable quantitie of it (for litle of it as of all other preseruatiues can haue small force) and therewithall laid themselves to sweate, very few I say miscaried: yea the most part did within few houres perceiue the venome of the disease to be driuen cleane from the heart to the outward partes, wherby within a day or two after, they found themselves past all daunger. But because it is no part of my  
A 2 meaning.

## To the Reader.

meaning, neyther presume I to haue skill enough to set down at full the due prayſes of ſo pretious a preſeruatiue. I will ſurceaſe to proceed any further in commending the ſame vnto you: and that ſo much the rather, becauſe the Authour in the diſcourſe it ſelfe hath at large declared the vertues thereof. Onely this I will ſay therof by the way, that I can in nothing reſemble this Triacle better, then to the moſt valiant and victorious champion *Heracles* for his worthy actes and conqueſts canonized amongſt the Gods. For as *Heracles* is reported to haue trauailed continually from countrey to countrey throughout the whole world, euery where as he went deſtroying monſters, ſlaying Tyrantes, murderers & robbers; clearing high wayes, cleaſing all peſtiferous ayres and noyſome waters, whereby he deliuered infinite nations from thraldome and ſlauiery, freed all paſſages for trauailers and waifarers, and reſtored the interrupted intercourſe and trade with forraine countreyes, to the wonderfull and inſtimable benefit of all mankind: Euen ſo this Triacle being by good aduice recieued into mans body, deſtroieth all yecome and poiſon, killeth or expelleth all corrupt vapors and humors, and ſcoureth all the pipes & conduits whereby it ſaueeth the heart and chiefe intrailes from ſuffocation and deſtruction, freeth all the vaines and veſſels and reſtoreth free recourſe and paſſage of the liuely and cheerefull ſpirits and nourishing humors into all the members of the body, to the ſinguler comfort and reſreſhing of the whole man. What ſhould cauſe or induce the Authour ſo long to ſtay the publiſhing of ſo fruitfull or rather neceſſary a diſcourſe, in this ſo fit an opportunity, it is hard to gueſſe, vnleſſe peraduenture it be that he perceiued ſtraight vpon the perfecting of his booke the plague to begin, and therefore thought it not amiſſe to deferre the ſetting out therof vntill eyther by him ſelfe or ſome learned men, ſufficient triall might be taken of the forcible effects thereof in the plague it ſelf, as already very good experiment had beene prooued in many other diſeaſes, Wherein if I haue gueſt aright, I hope the Authour  
hath



## To the Reader.

hath lesse cause to be offended with me considering I haue  
but done that which he meant to haue perfourmed himselfe,  
in making him do his countrey good a litle sooner then he  
intended. And my hope herein is the greater, because it is  
apparant by the suppressing of his name, that he neither am-  
bitiously therby hunted after praise, nor greedily gaped for  
gaine, but wholly respected the benefiting and profiting of  
his countrey, By how much the more his good meaning is  
of all men to be taken in good part. And thus presu-  
ming that the Authour will beare with my boldnesse and  
not doubting but so well a meant worke shall be acceptably  
receiued of the gentle Reader, I commit them both vnto the  
almighties protection.

*R. Band.*






## *The contents of the Booke,*


1. The occasion of making London Triacle.
2. The first inuention of Theriaca, and in what estimation mighty princes euer haue had it.
3. Why it was called Triacle or Thiriaca.
4. The vertues and qualities of London Triacle.
5. The order of vsing this Triacle.
6. For what cause the receipt is not yet published, and wherefore the making of it is (by authority) committed to one Apothecary.







## The occasion of the making of London Triacle

He Masters & Wardens of the Grocers companie, hauing by sundry yeares searches, wel marked and obserued, that a filthy & vnwholsome baggage composition, (termed comonly Triacle of Geane) hath bene craftily, and by couine of certaine lewd persons, in a monstrous quantity, some thousand weight yearely brought into this Realme, and here to the folwe deceauing, and danger of the liues of many thousands, bene publikey sold, caryng credit with all sorts of people, onely for the bare namesake of Theriaca, or Triacle: (as their dutie to their country bound them) did diuers yeares vse all such good meanes and orders, as they could deuise, to hannish cleane out of the realme, or at least to hinder much the vente of such a noysome and popsonish drugge. For although that the most of the company were not greatly learned, yet many of them being discrete men, and of good insight and experience in such matters, did out of the rules of bare reason, gather that this so named Geane Triacle, being (as it is wel known) made only of the rotten garble, & refuse outcast of all kinde of spices and drugs, hand ouer head, with a little filthy molasses, and farre to worke it by withall, was so farre from either curing or pꝛeuenting any disease in mans bodie,

bodie, that by all likelyhood it must needes ingender most rotten and corrupt humors. And with good reason might they iudge that composition of no great vertue and force, which hath bene often sould of late yeares for xxx. s. and sometimes for xxvij. s. the hundred, which falleth out iii. d. or at most vnder iii. d. q. a pound.

Now, what good Spice, Sugar, Hony, or other drugge of any vertue can be sould for so base a price, let any man iudge: So as it is most apparaunt to one that hath but halfe an eye, that so base a composition must needes be made of such dregges, and refuse, as are more fitte for the dung-cartes, then the Apothecaries, or Grocers shoppes. And surely it is great pittie, that some seuerer punishment is not by the superiour maiestrates, inflicted vpon such lewd persons, as being so often warned do still bring in, or otherwise by themselves, or their seruants make, or utter such filthie and rotten drugges, and that vnder the cloake and name of so comfortable a preseruatiue, as Triacle hath in all ages bene esteemed to be.

But to goe forward, the Grocers finding that their good care, and discrete orders for the bannishing of so vnwholsome a drugge, did not take such effect as they looked for and wished: and obseruing that the very cheapnes of this misnamed Beane Triacle, together with the excessive dearness of Venice Triacle, and Pithridate, were the onely causes, that still continued so meruailous a vent thereof, After deliberate consultation had, thought it best to entreat the learned Society of Physicians, to set downe some effectually receite of Triacle, which might be both forceable against rotten and venemous diseases, and also of an easie and moderate price for the poore subject.

Vnto which, their so honest and reasonable request, the Colledge of Physicians did readily condescend: and thereupon they presently committed the charge of the setting down of the receite, vnto three choise men of their companie, which should (by a certaine day) deliuer vnto Mr. Besse an Apothecary



Apothecarie (to whome both by the Physicians and Grocers order, the making thereof was onely committed) their prescript, which they did after diligent conferring of sundry receats of learned wryters, together (according to the charge to them committed, carefully perfoyme:) within fewe daies after Mr. Besse did bring to the Colledge, both the prescript to him befoze deliuered, and also a pound of the composition, which he by their order had made by for a tryall sake, to the intent that all the whole company of Physicians together, after diligent examination of the prescript, with such tryall as Arte could take, by the colour, taste, smell, and consistence of the Tryacle it selfe, might either resolue vpon that receat already set downe, or els by adding, and rebating, as by their skill should seeme good (with some little change) sette downe another. And so it fell out indeede, that some little alteration, being in one simple or two made, the receate, was (with the Colledge seale annexed vnto it) redeliuered to the said Mr. Besse, to be yearely by him accordingly dispensed and prepared, with freight charge, not in any iot or point, to varie from the very words of the same prescript: And that euery yeare befoze the dispensing thereof, he should giue notice to the President, and Censors of the Physicians Colledge, that for the carefuller preparing thereof, they might with any other of their Societie, come to his house and there make examination, and tryall of all the simples, ingredients, befoze they were put together, & compounded.

And that to the good of all the Realme, the said Tryacle might be the more faithfully prepared, the Master and Wardens of the Grocers, first presented M. W. Besse to the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen his bretheren, as a very fit Man both for skill, and honest carefulnes in his profession, to perfoyme the Compounding of such a Tryacle: where was giuen him a corporall Oath, for the true, and carefull preparing thereof: And afterwards, the said Master and Wardens did deliuer vnto M. W. Besse in writing, both the receate new writte out againe, and withall, all the poynts of his Oath, with the Seale of their Company

Company, reseruing the Physicians receate and seale, for their discharge, in the Grocers Hall. Which course and order of examining yearely the simples, and careful making vp of the Composition, hath now these five years bene accordingly put in execution, and the Triacle it selfe (by so many yeares experience) thoroughly tried to be of singular vertue, and of wonderfull force, as well in comforting nature, as in expelling all noysome, and venomous matter from the hart, and principall partes of mans body.

In setting downe of which receate, the Physicians tooke especiall care to appoint such ingredients as were perfectly knowne, not hard to be gotten, and (as much as might be in so forceable, and effectuall a preservative) home-bredde: and this they chiefly did, for the good and ease of the poore subiect, whose purse cannot reach vnto the price of costly medicines. All which things well considered, there may be moze said iustly in the commendation of this London Triacle, then may be of any other medicine whatsoener heretofore deuised, and set out in this Realme: And if I should say forraine Realmes too, it might well be iustified, considering the sound learning, deepe iudgement, and long experience of the whole Colledge of Physicians, that deuised it with the great care which both they, and also the magistrates of the Citie haue taken, for the diligent, and perfect preparing thereof. As for the price, it is so reasonable (a pound not amounting aboue y. s. viij. d. an ounce by retale not aboue ii. d.) as no wise man will spare so much to do his horse or dogge good withall.

This Triacle is made, and to be had at the house of M. William Bessie, dwelling in the Poultrey, neere the Counter.



# Of the first inuention of *Theriaca*, and in what estimation mightie Princes euer haue had it.

**A**lthough Andromachus the Elder, Nero the Emperours chiefe Physician, be of most men esteemed, as the first inuentour of *Triacle*, or *Theriaca*, yet you must vnderstand, that he did onely adde vipers, first to some olde composition thereof, which he liked best, and withall gave it a new name, teaching it, not *Theriaca*, but *Galene*, as much to say as calmenes, or stillnes. This *Galene* did Crito (a famous practitioner vnder the *Vespasian* reignes) name *Theriaca*, because it receiued the flesh of vipers: of Physicians, by a preheminance named in Grecke *Onpia*. But that the Reader may, together take a view both of the first beginning, and originall, and also what great credit *Theriaca* was presently in with mightie Princes, euen vpon the very first inuention: We must vnderstand, that the verie first *Theriaca*, recorded of in writers, is that of *Antiochus*, whome *Plinie* surnameth *Magnus*, and *Galen* *Philometor*. He reigned in *Siria* some 200. yeares before *Christ*. This was called *Antiochus* his *Theriaca*, because that great and mightie King himselfe did continually vse it as a preservative against all poysons, and venomous stings. By whose countenance, it grew presently into such estimation and credit, that the famous Physician *Endemus*, (as *Galen* reporteth) put the receate thereof in verse: And that all men might partake the good and profite of so forceable a preservative: The verses (as *Plinie* recordeth) were engraven in stone, ouer the porch doore of *Aesculapius* his Temple, as a medicine of so diuine power and vertue, as not to be esteemed for any mans inuention, but rather a diuine receate revealed vnto mankind, by the great God of Physicians himselfe. Within two or three ages after *Antiochus*,

did Nicander, that learned Physician and Poet, dedicate his booke, named Theriaca, vnto Attalus then King. of Perga-  
num, where after, Galen was borne. This Attalus was a  
noble Prince, greatly fauouring and aduancing all kinde  
of good learning: but aboue all things, wonderfully giuen  
to make triall of the vertues of medicines, and especially of  
such as were thought of force against venomous beasts, &  
poysons: which both he then, and by his example after-  
ward, Mithridates the great (as Galen truly testifieth) did  
curiously and diligently, make experiment of vpon con-  
demned persons. The experiments of this learned King  
Attalus, coming within an age or two after vnto the hands  
of Mithridates, and being by his like studie, and tryall in  
imitation of Attalus (*αγαθὸς ἄνθρωπος καὶ βολοῖσι*) much en-  
creased, he culd out of both their experiences, the very choise  
simples, and thereof deuised a most effectuell composition,  
named by Galen Theriaca Mithridatis (much differing from  
that which we commonly call Methridatum) by continuall  
vse of which medicine, he preserved himselfe many score  
yeares free from all danger of poysoning: so that (as Galen  
writeth) being streightly besieged by the Conquering Ro-  
mans, and out of all hope to escape, to prevent their cruelty,  
and to auoide his owne shame, he twice tooke ranke and  
strong poyson: but the force of his so often receaued Trya-  
cle was such, as no poyson neuer so great could preuaile a-  
gainst it, whereby in the end, the good king was compelled  
to dye vpon his owne sword.

About fourscore yeares after Mithridates miserable end,  
did Aelius Gallus, Tiberius the Emperours lieftenant in  
Aegipt and Arabia, in his returne from thence, bring two  
receates of Theriaca home with him: wherewith he presen-  
ted the Emperour Tiberius, esteeming them as fit presents  
for so mighty a Banarch.

Now in what wonderfull estimation, or rather admira-  
tion, Tryacle was had in Galens time, Galen himselfe doth  
at large set doونه, in his booke Intituled of Triacle, and  
dedicated



dedicated unto Piso a noble Roman: which booke (as may be gathered by the text) he writ in the beginning of Caracalla his Raigne, before he had made away his brother Geta. For Marcus Aurelius (in the beginning of whose raigne Galen first came to Rome) a Prince for his deepe and profound learning, named Marcus the Philosopher, and which (as Galen testifieth) had a perfect and exquisite knowledge of his owne temperature and complexion, by the daily vse of Triacle (being both by nature, and also by trauaile, as well of body as minde, of a fowle constitution) liued many yeares (notwithstanding) in excellent good health, & state of bodie. So that the wonderfull opinion, which was had through all the world of this Emperours wisdom, & learning, together with his long continued health, procured by the onely vse of this preservative, brought Triacle into such credit and estimation, that all great men, as well in the Court of Rome, as els where in the Country and Prouinces abroad, following the Emperours example, fell to the vse thereof. And least the reader should thinke that Marcus Aurelius onely vsed Andromachus his Triacle: let him reade the last chapter of Galens second booke of Counter poisons, where, in the very first line he shall finde the receate that Aurelius so much vsed, compounded but onely of four simples, and God he knowes, a simple composition in deede (for all the great credit it had) if it be compared with our London Elyacle.

Some fourteene yeare after M. Aurelius his departure, succeeded in the Empire Soptianus Seuerus, a prince though not greatly learned, yet both very wise and balliant.

This Emperour made that most renowned Physitian (or rather Prince of all Physitions) Galen, to prepare and compound for the Emperours owne vse, the Theriaca of Andromachus, and that of the chieffest, and most choyce simples, which could be got in the whole world: whereby through the renoune of so famous a Physitian, the glorious name of Triacle was euer after amongst all posteritie

wonderfully increased and aduanced. From Galen vntill our daies (almost 1400. yeares) If one ouer-runne the stor-ies of all nations and ages, He shall finde that Triacle hath beene from time to time, of all mighty Princes had in wonderfull estimation and reputation. Pea that most Tyrannous and Barbarous Monarch, the great Turke, every yeare in Egypt (because that Country lieth most fitly to get all Indian and Arabian simples freshest) hath by the handes of the skilfullest and learnedst Physicians, which that sauadge & vlettered nation yeildeth, a composition of Theriaca prepared by the name of Tharach Faruc, which both of the Emperour himselve, & of all his Waslawes and great men, is had in wonderfull estimation. Although that through the ignozance of their Physicians in the making therof, both the vipers themselues (for whom they substitute a kind of Serpent with hoars, called therfore of the Greeks Cerastrer but of the Egyptians Tahyr) and many other especiall simples besides are mistaken and falsified: whereby it commeth to passe, that the Alexandrian or Egyptian Theriaca is in no degree to be compared with any kind of Triacle artificially prepared in sundry Citties of Christendome, where all kindes of good learning, and namely of Physicke do most plentifully flourish.

## Why it was called *Triacle* or *Theriaca*.

**F**or the naming of it Theriaca or Triacle, diuers and sundry reasons may be alleaged. First, because it was of purpose ordained to supply the vse, or rather to reforme the abuse, and to enioy and possesse the roome and place of that bastard Triacle, which hath these many yeares, to the vnspeakable annoyance of many thousands, beene too too much vsed in this Realme, by the name of Greane Triacle. The second, but principall reason is, for that



that all, or most of the ingredients, hauing singuler force against, either inward poysons, or outward venomous bytings, or stingings of venomous beasts, it must needes follow, that so perfect a composition made of so choise counterpoysons, & those so orderly in weight and measure proportioned, could not but be of wonderfull vertue and efficacy, not onely against poysons and venomes, but also against all corruption and rottennesse, either of humors or spirits: Neither is the name Triacle or Theriaca to be thought, as unfitly attributed to the London composition, although it receaue no vipers flesh in it at all. For notwithstanding that Crito a famous Empericke about Vespasianus his dayes, gaue that same composition, which Andromachus Neroes Physician, first either inuented or enlarged, & with all teamed it Galene the name of Theriaca, because it receiued vipers flesh, (which kind of Serpent is of many Greekes both Physicians & Philosophers, by a prerogative called *Onchion* yet the name of Theriaca hath both before Neroes time and since, bene commonly attributed not only to compounds, contayning no vipers flesh at all, but also to very simples, only for that they were iudged of force against the bytinges and stingings of venomous beastes. For compoundes, who so doubteth, let him read the 10. chap. of the 2 booke of Galen of counterpoysons (for so I translate *Antidotus*) where he shall finde five severall Theriacaes vpon a row, into none of which, vipers flesh is any ingredient. The first, of Antipater, The second, & third, of Aelius Gallus (under whose conduct in our Saviour Christs time, Strabo that learned Geographer did trauaile both Egypt and Arabia) The fourth, of Euclide by named Palatianus. The fifth, of Zeno the Laodician. Againe, in the fourteenth chap. he shall finde Theriaca Antiochi, Philometoris (Plinicalleth him Magnus) which raigned in Siria some 12. score years before euer vipers flesh was put into any Theriaca. For Andromachus Neroes Physician, by Galens owne testimony, was the very first that added vipers flesh vnto Theriaca. Now  
since

Since Andromachus time, we may finde infinite receipts of Theriaca in sundry Phisitions, clearely boide of vipers flesh: As namely, that which M. Aurelius so much bled with so good successe, then the bulger Theriaca diateffaron a simple receate, in shew of foure common simples, yet a receate no doubt of singular force and vertue: And last of all, that baggage composition, thrust in vnder the name of Geane Triacle, hath these many yeares vsurped the name of Theriaca, although it hath no vipers flesh in it at all.

As for simples, both Galen calleth Garlick the country mans Triacle, and Plinie maketh mention, of a kinde of Wine in the Iland of Thafos, called therefore Theriaca, because, as well the grape, as the wine would heale the bitings, and stings of Serpents. Besides, Valeriana is of sondry late wryters, named Theriaca for the same reason: which things considered, the learned Colledge of Phisitions of this famous Citie of London, did very aptly, and aduisedly (to this their Composition) attribute the name of Theriaca. And that so much the more, for that this London Triacle, besides the choyse of olde simples, containeth in it, at least a dozen spices and hearbes, not knowne to the olde wryters: whose wonderfull vertues, are notwithstanding against all poysons and venomes (by many a hundred yeares tryal) sufficiently approoued. And these late knowne simples were added, by warraunt both of reason (the perfect rule and leuell of all Phisitions actions) and also of Auerroes, the best learned, both Philosopher, and Phisition of all the Arabians, which in his abridgement of Phisick, (commonly called the Colliget) doth iustly reprove the opinion of Auicen, (otherwise himselfe a most famous Phisition) affirming the Andromachus his Triacle, taketh his so wonderfull force, not from the vertues & qualities of the simples which are in it, but from a fitt supernaturall hidden propertie, proceeding from the essentiall forme (as he tearmeth it forsooth) of the whole mixture, and therefore strictly warneth all Phisitions, neither to adde too, nor diminish



diminish any thing from Andromachus his first prescript: Which opinion of Auicen, as too superstitiously tying all posterity to our fore-fathers receipts, Auerroze doth, and that iustly confute, wishing (which in this composition, the Physicians of London haue with great reason put in practice) that diuers of such excellent counter-poyson simples, as later times haue discovered, should be either added ouer and aboue the olde ingredients, or else substituted in some of their places, which were found to be of least force and vertue.

## Of the vertues, and qualities of London Tryacle.

**T**O recite all the vertues, and vses of the London Tryacle, as well in preventing, as in curing most grieuous diseases, would require a learned, and larger discourse, then at this present is either requisite, or intended to be set downe. Notwithstanding the cheife, and most principall qualities thereof, and those from which the reasons and grounds of all the rest must be fetched, are these that follow. First, this Tryacle heateth, and dryeth about the midst (as Physicians tearme it) of the second degree, and withall, is of very thinne parts. Secondly, it hath a skowring, or cleansing vertue, with a moderate astringion. By his heate, it helpeth all kindes of concoction, and ripeneth all crud humors, or dines in mans body. By his heate, & thinnes of parts, it openeth all pores & passages, it thinneeth & breatheth out grosse humors and winde, it softeneth hard tumors, and relaxeth stiffness of partes, and consequently mittigateth all kinde of paines, and greifes: It prouoketh sweate, urine, and womens courses, it openeth the Emeraunds, and furthereth all euacuations: By his drynes, and cleansing powre, it consumeth and wasteth, or els soppeth away all grosse, tough, and clammy humors: and thereby deliuereth

obstructions, and mightily resisteth all putrefactions, and  
 poysons, either inward or outward. By his milde astricti-  
 on and moderate warmth, it strengthneth all the principall  
 members of mans bodie, and thereby renueth good spirits,  
 ingendereth pure blood, and stayeth all immoderate wast-  
 ings, and euacuations, either of humors or spirits. So that  
 what soeuer infirmity in mans body, proceedeth either from  
 too much aboundance of humors and winde, or els from  
 their faultines in coldnes, grossenes, toughnes, clammities,  
 or rottennes: likewise what soeuer is caused by stopping of  
 the conduits, and passages, or by the astriction, and shutting  
 of the pores: Besides whatsoeuer imperfections or de-  
 faultes possesse the cheife and principall partes, and there-  
 by hinder or depraue any of their functions or workes: all  
 these (if they be by inward medicines curable) may by this  
 Triacle (artificially and skilfully vled) be either wholly,  
 and altogether cured, or at least greatly eased, and amen-  
 ded. To a Philition, or any other man trayned vp in good  
 literature, these breife instructions are sufficient, to direct  
 him fully to the perfect vse of this Triacle, in all conueni-  
 ent diseases. But because this discourse dooth cheifly re-  
 spect, and is especially written for the ignorant, and vni-  
 lettered multitude of the common people, which is no wayes  
 able to conceaue the naturall causes of things: it will not be  
 amisse, for the simple persons better instruction, to set down  
 by name, such common and running diseases, as this  
 Triacle is most to be vled against. First, of all therefore  
 it is of marueilous force against the Plague, Sweating  
 sickness Pocks (small I meane) or meafels, or any other ma-  
 litious & pestilent feauer. For being giuen the sicke person  
 to drinke with Dragons, Carduus Benedictus, or Angelica  
 water, it driueth out from the hart and principall partes  
 to the skinne, all the venome and corruption of the disease.  
 By the same vertue it both preserveth, and also cureth as  
 well any inward poyson, as any biting or stinging of  
 madde dogge or venomous beast: yea, being outwardly  
 applied



applied to the bytings and stings : or to the Carbuncles  
 or Boles in the plague, it hath (as it were) miraculously  
 draine out all the inward venome, and corruption by that  
 issue. As for long head-aches, & megrames, Turnedness,  
 dubnes of sight, thicknes of hearing, and such like diseases  
 of the braine, Gnewes, and instruments of Senses, which  
 proceede from colde and tough humors, or from winde, all  
 these by the continuall vsage hereof, may in time be either  
 cleane taken away, or else greatly asswaged and dimini-  
 shed: For by comfortng the braine, it cheareth the spi-  
 rits, sharpeneth the wit, strengthneth the memorie, quick-  
 neth all the Senses. Against the falling sicknes, and  
 wormes, being diseases most commonly troubling chil-  
 dren, this Triacle is an especiall remedie: as hauing diuers  
 choyce ingredients, perticularly respecting those infirmi-  
 ties of purpose inserted into it: For the Whealings, and  
 olde coughs, being taken with the water or decoction of  
 Hyssope, or Horehound, it is very effectuell: as also with  
 the decoction of Comfrey rootes, or conferat of olde red  
 Roses, it excellently stayeth any lingering spitting of blood,  
 issuing from the lungs or chest: Likewise it healeth any  
 stiches in the sides (if they proceede not from hotte infla-  
 mations or pleurifies) being either inwardly taken, or out-  
 wardly applied hot. Now in the stomacke, it prouoketh  
 appetite, helpeth concoction, and distribution, breaketh and  
 discusseth winde and either digesteth or driueth out from  
 thence, all rawe and corrupt humors, whereby it healeth  
 the inflation, or puffing vp of the stomacke with winde, and  
 cureth that kinde of greedines (which Whistions tearme  
 the dogges appetite) which disease forceth them that haue  
 it, to eate their meate greedily, and that very much, but  
 presently after to caste it againe: notwithstanding after  
 they haue vomited, their appetite is no whit stayed nor a-  
 bayted, but streight way they become as greedy againe as  
 before: In the lyuer it deliuereth all obstructions, & cureth  
 the yealow Jaundise, esppecially being taken with the de-  
 coction

coction of woyme wood (ground pure) Horehound, Ale  
 coast, Pandline, or Succory: Whereby it cureth the Greene  
 sickness, and the Droopie, not being growne too farre, nor  
 rooted. The like force it hath in infirmities of the spleene,  
 wherein it helpeth all stoppings, discusseth windinesses,  
 and diminisheth all sort of colde swellings or tumors:  
 namely, being receaued with the decoction of Tama-  
 riske, barke of Capers rootes, or of Finger-searne. Pet-  
 ther is it of lesse power and vertue, in curing the diseases of  
 the entralls or guttes: for it singularly helpeth the Collick,  
 and stayeth all laxes, and asswageth all torments, and gryp-  
 ings, if it be orderly taken with fitte, & conuenient liquors,  
 drops, or conserues. But the most especiall, and singu-  
 lar vertue thereof, is the wonderfull comfort and strength  
 it yeeldeth and imparteth to the hart, the principall parte  
 of the life of man: which his force is most mightily percea-  
 ued in faintings, and swoondings. The same effects it  
 sheweth in tremblings of the hart, and in all melancholie  
 passions and frights.

But to goe forward: in the kidnies and bladder, it mild-  
 ly scowzeth away and cleaseth sand, grauell, or stones, and  
 thereby often times cureth the stoppings of Urine, and the  
 Strangurie. For the Colic (after generall euacuations or  
 derly administrated) the continuall vse of this Tryacle, is a  
 most effectuell remedie: which effect it worketh by helping  
 concoction in the stomacke and Liver, by comforting the  
 braine, and by drying vp, or driving out, either by sweate,  
 or insensible outbreathings, all superfluous moisture, both  
 there and in all other parts of the bodie. Besides all these,  
 it is a singular remedie, both for Palsies and cramps, either  
 inwardly taken, or outwardly applyed, and annoynted with  
 some conuenient Oyle or grease. In womens matters, al-  
 though the vertues thereof be excellently effectual, not with-  
 standing, I thinke it not amiss to omit the rehearsall of them  
 at this time, because any large discourse thereof, especially  
 in the mother tongue, may seeme vniit for chaste eares, and  
 besides,



besides, is more likely to do harme then good, in suchlike mindes.

But here I may not ouer passe the mighty power it hath in driving away any long lingering Ague, proceeding from colde, grosse, or tough humors, & namely, of an old quartane Ague, if it be orderly giuen in good large proportion, with the decoction of Germanander, or Tamariske halfe an houre before the fit, the partie withall being put into a warme bed, & with store of warme clothes prouoked presently to sweate: marry here great heede must be taken, that first the body be well purged, and let blood (if neede be) and that the humor be ripe and concocted. To set do to one at large, all the particular vertues, & effects of this London Triacle, would make by a large volume. For because therefore both I meane to be short, and these vertues already expressed are sufficient to direct any reasonable man to the orderly vse of this London Triacle, in most common diseases: I will surcease to discourse any longer of the qualities thereof, and proceede to the order of vsing it.

## The order of vsing London Triacle.

**I**n the vse of London Triacle, three things are to be considered: first, the quantitie, next the time, and lastly, the manner of ministring of it. A certaine quantitie, either in weight or measure thereof, cannot precisely be declared in words, by reason of the manifold diuersities, as well of the strength, age, sexe, temperature, and complexion of the sick body, as of the diseases themselves, their causes, and the parts of mans body therewith possessed: In sucking children halfe a scruple will be a reasonable quantitie: In women with childe, or in child bed, in very olde folkes, or yong children past sucking, a whole scruple may be well borne: in stronger bodies, and abler constitutions, a larger proportion

portion may be allowed, (due consideration being had of the urgency of the disease, and the strength of the partie) as from a scruple weight upward to a whole Dragma or foure scruples in very urgent and hard diseases, as in driving away of a quartane or such like. But when poyson is already receaved inwardly, or any bodie newly bitten, stung with a mad dog, or venomous beast, you must ascend yet higher, and encrease your dosis to two Dragmes weight, yea, and in strong poysons and venomes, unto three Dragmes, and this you must often times doe, and not be content with once giuing it.

And here because most men knowes not these names of Scruples and Dragmes, and many men though they peradventure knowe them, yet haue them not readie at hand when neede requires, it is to be understood, that a Dragma weight in English siluer is vii. s. ob. iust, and a scruple (which is the third part of a Dragma, weigheth iust y. s. ob. now who so cannot halfe or double any of these, is too simple to be thought fit to minister medicines vnto any sicke bodie being in danger. Furthermore, for because that most of the common and vulgar people, though they had weights, yet they knowe them not: and which is more, knoweth not how to weigh any thing by those coyne which they best knowe, it is thought not amiss, to set downe such directions in giuing of this Triacle, as the ignorantest man of all cannot much goe amiss. For a scruple, they are full the bignes of a meane and ordinarie hasell Nut husked: and for a Dragma, the quantity of a small nutmegge, may safely be administered, and so the rest ratably: And thus much for the quantity. Now for the time and fit season of giuing it (which, as in all other medicines administering, so in this Triacle giuing, is the difficultest poynte of skill in all phisick) two things are chiefly to be noted: The time of the day, and the time of the disease. Of all times of the day the morning is most apt, and fittest both for this medicine and all other such like to be taken in. And good cause why: For in  
the



the morning, after the whole nights rest, the former dayes meate being fully digested and dispersed into the outward parts of the bodie, the inward parts, as the stomacke, liver, spleene, and bellie, vaines, are then empty, & therefore more apt both to receaue in themselves, and to disperse abroad into the whole bodie, the force and vertue of the medicine then taken. For alwaies, especiall care and regarde is to be taken, that neyther this Triacle, nor any such like strong & forceable medicine, be administered inwardly after meate, or vpon a full belly. For, and if the bellie be not either by nature loose, or by Arte made soluble, the vse of Triacle can no wayes be safe.

The other time to be obserued, is that of the disease it selfe, which carveth so great sway, that often times it overruleth the time of the day, and altereth it at pleasure, according to the time of the whole disease, or of that present fit then possessing the sick body: for the time of the whole sickness, as a long Ague, or other lingering disease, it is against all rules of Arte to minister Triacle, either in the beginning, or in the encrease of the disease, until manyest tokens of concoction and ripenes appeare: after which time (if the obstructions of the liver or spleene continue not still great) you may safely, accordingly as the ripenes encrease, & the obstructions decrease, ratably augment the quantitie of your Triacle. The same is to be obserued in the time of the fit: for until the matter of that fit make shew of ripenes, & that the passages of the outward parts and skinne be somewhat opened, you may no wayes give any Triacle: but after that time you may safely minister it, the better thereby to further the issue of sweate, and insensible out-breathings: by which kindes of euacuations (being abundantly performed) very often times it falleth out, that the whole disease is dissolved and rid away.

Besides the two times rehearsed, the one of the day, the other of the disease, the age of the Triacle it selfe is diligently to be considered: for the newer he is, the better, and readier

reabiet he stayeth any euacuation, especially by vomitte or  
stool, & withall asswageth any inward grypings or paines,  
chiefly such as proceede from hotte and fretting humors. A-  
gaine, the elder this Triacle is, the more forceable and ef-  
fectuall are his vertues, in opening all stoppings and ob-  
structions of the principall parts, and consequently in ex-  
pelling, and drining out from the inward to the outward  
parts all venomous and rotten, either humors or vapors.

Now for the manner of giuing it, you must note, that if  
your intent be to stay any fluxe or euacuation, by strengthe-  
ning the principall parts, or else to mitigate & asswage any  
inward paine, in such cases you must minister your Triacle  
in solide or drye forme, either alone, or with some conserue;  
or Electuary, and then sleepe vpon it: vnles you meane to  
stay immoderate sweating. Contrarie wise, if you meane  
and desire to drue out, and expell any corrupt or noysome  
humor or vapor, then giue it dissolued in some conuenient  
liquor, and sleepe not after it: except your meaning be to  
procure sweate, which of all euacuations is onely furthered  
by sleeping: And thus much for the right vse of this Lon-  
don Triacle.

For what cause the receate is not yet  
published, and wherefore the making thereof  
is committed onely to one Apothecarie.

**N**O doubt many will not a litle meruaile why the receat  
& prescript of this London Triacle, is neither in this  
discourse, nor any where els published to the view of all  
men, especially of Philosophers abroade: that by the exami-  
ning of the simples, they may better iudge of the force and  
vertue of the whole composition: An example whereof there  
is no president to be shewed, either in former ages, or for-  
raigne countries, vnles one would fetch a president and  
warrant from the barbarous Turks, who these many years  
hang



have concealed the receate  
till now of late, Prosperus Alp  
ning sundrie yeares in Egypt,  
prescript thereof, at the hands  
Simpler, which yearely had the cha  
dines, all the simple ingredients for the  
in the presence of all the skillfullest Phil  
doth yearely make up the whole Composition: **Various**  
ceate, the same Alpinus hath very honestly, and to his  
praise, published to the whole world. In auncient times,  
predecessors were so farre from concealing and suppressing  
any such effectuall medicine, that the first Composition of  
Triacle (whereof record is found in any writer, Antiochus  
his Theriaca I meane) was presently by Endemus a famous  
Physition put into verse, and the verses engrauen in stone,  
and set up ouer the good Esculapius his Temple dooze, for  
euery man to reade ouer, and copie out at his pleasure.  
What cause or reason then should mooue the Physitions of  
London, to keepe their new receate of Triacle so much con  
cealed? Assure your selues they did it not without great  
reason, and good consideration.

The very true cause of suppressing the receats, is the entire  
affection they beare to the whole nation, their native coun  
trie, together with a diligent carefulnes they haue, that the  
Composition may without fraude or couin, be truly and  
perfectly prepared. For seeing how great an abuse was  
growne in the world, by suffering euery man that would  
take it vpon him to make Beane Triacle hand ouer head,  
and that without ouer looking or correcting: after aduise  
deliberately taken, they could finde in this unruly, and dis  
orderly age, no other meanes to aboide so great an inconue  
nience, or rather mischief, sauing onely by committing  
the making and compounding thereof, vnto some one honest  
and skillfull Apothecary alone: which their good intent, and  
meaning could not haue bene compassed, if the receate had  
bene published to the world: For so euery other, either

readier he staveeth any euacuation, by the Cited freedoms,  
schole, & withall affwageth any, might haue made, and  
cheifly such as proceede from, as he is to whom the charge  
gaine, the elder this Triacle, the rather were the physicians  
fectuall are his vertues, in, the rather were the physicians  
structions of the pring, to recate to commit the charge of  
selling, and drining, as only Apothecary, that thereby they  
parts all benenig, sure themselves of the perfect making

Now by often bishwing, and diligently examining all the  
your use at his house, which thing would haue bene an illu-  
minous doyle & labour for them to performe in so many Apoth-  
ecaries and Druggers houses as would haue gone about  
the making thereof. Yettlier is it their meaning altogether  
to suppress the recate, but onely to conceale it for a time,  
vntill good order may by authoritie be set downe, for the  
true and orderly making of it, and such other like. Besides,  
they were therewithal dratons, and masqued to conceale it  
for a season, that before the publishing, they might  
make perfect proole, and full triall of the  
effects and vertues thereof.

FINIS.





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# London Tryacle,

Being the enemy to all infectious  
diseases; as may appear by the dis-  
course following.



London  
Printed by E. W. ALLEN.  
1675.